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# EASTERN

F.O.  
371

1947



PALESTINE

File No 5885

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Reference:-

**FO** 371 / 61939

**CLOSED  
UNTIL**

61939

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1947

E

PALESTINE

E 5885

5 JUL

2

Registry Number } E 5885 / 5885 / 4  
 FROM }  
 No. } 10 Minutes  
 Dated } 16.8.47  
 Received in Registry } 3 July  
 } 5.4.47

London Representative of Palestine Arabs.  
 and Arabian matters said on July 2.  
 that he had been approached by Mr. Shauwa,  
 who had produced 7 letters signed by the staff  
 of the Arab Higher Committee appointing  
 him London Rep of Palestine Arabs.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

See within

References.

Egyptian Rep. H.B. 87  
 D  
 87

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61939

I have now seen Mr. Shauwa,  
 who was re-introduced to me by the  
 Lebanese Charge d'Affaires. It appears  
 that he does not intend to set up  
 an office in rivalry with the existing  
 Arab Office or to conduct propaganda in  
 any such organised way. He will hold  
 a watching brief for the Palestine Arab  
 Higher Committee, and I have the  
 impression that sooner or later he will  
 try to make <sup>more formal</sup> contact with Government  
 Departments. He reminded me that

(Action completed.)

7/8/47

(Index.)

7/8/47

Next Paper.

6138.

/Siv

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Sir A. Ludyan had, at Lake Success last May, declared the Arab Higher Committee to be "representative of the views of the Arab population of Palestine."

I did not remember the wording of this statement clearly enough to be able to point out to Mr. Shawa that there is a difference between "representative of the views of" and "representative of".

But I did make it clear to him that, if he wished to claim any representative capacity in London on behalf of the A.H.C., he must approach the Colonial Office and not the Foreign Office. He seemed to find this discouraging.

H.B. Bealey 9/8

W.M. 11/8

Now see Mr. Shawa's notification (addressed to me) that he has established himself as "Head of the Palestine Arab Political Mission

[Minutes of 47th meeting of F.A.C. Committee, p. 3]

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371 /

619339

Mission in Great Britain". I do not know whether he has sent a similar communication to the Colonial Office. We at any rate will not acknowledge it.

H. B. Selby 5/9

R. G. J. 5/9

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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5  
*Entered*

E 5885  
5 JUL

The Saudi Arabian Minister called on July 2nd and said that he had been approached by a Palestinian Arab, called Mr. Shawwa, who had once held an official position in Saudi Arabia and still travelled with a Saudi Arabian passport. This man had produced two letters, one signed by the Mufti and another by the Arab Higher Committee, appointing him the representative in London of the Palestine Arabs. Sheikh Hafiz had pointed out to him that the Mufti was not the head of a State and had no right to appoint representatives to London or anywhere else. As the man is a Saudi Arabian, Sheikh Hafiz thought he ought to tell us, especially as Mr. Shawwa would doubtless try to establish contact with us before long.

Mr. Shawwa is also to engage in propaganda on behalf of the Palestine Arabs. Palestine Arab propaganda will thus in future be run partly by the Arab Office organised by Musa Alami, and partly by their rival, Mr. Shawwa, representing the Mufti.

*W. M. ...*

3rd July, 1947.

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5885 / 1885 / 31  
17 SEP 1957  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Eaton 6  
K

Izzedeem Shawa, Head of the Palestine Arab Political Mission in Great Britain, has the honour to inform you that the Mission's address is now:-

Flat 1,  
76 Eaton Square,  
London, S.W.1.

Telephone: Sloane 8562

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1947

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PALESTINE

E 6138  
12 # 31

Registry Number } E 6138/5885/31  
TELEGRAM FROM  
No. M. Clarke  
Dated Jeddah  
Received in Registry } 25-8  
10 July  
12

Letter Representative of Palestine Council  
R/for Palestine tel 1283 (E 4190/24/31)  
M. J. Jeddah, this is not the first visit to the  
U.K. in recent years. Understands he spent  
last winter in the U.K.

Last Paper.

5885

References.

(R 9976)

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

5) C.O. (with) July 23

(Minutes.)

Constitution asked for.

Now see amendment.

Copy will go to C.O.

H33. 19/7

H33. 22/7

(Action completed.)

R 21/7

(Index)

24/4/48

Next Paper.

945-8

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Reference:- FO 371 / 61939



E 6138  
12/11

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1.

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Clarke D: 12.00 p.m. 10th July, 1947  
No. 258  
10th July, 1947 R: 9. 24 p.m. 10th July, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem,  
Cairo, )  
Amman, )  
Damascus, ) SAVING.  
Bagdad, )  
Beirut. )

~~~~~

CONFIDENTIAL.

E 4190 / 4/47

Jerusalem telegram No. 1283 to the Secretary of State for the Colonies paragraph 13.

Izzedin Shawa's participating was [grp. undec.] in Jedda. This is not his first visit to the United Kingdom in recent years. In fact I understood from him that he spent last winter in the United Kingdom.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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6138 / 5885 / 71. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AMENDMENT SLIP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1.

Jedda telegram No. 258 of 10th July to Foreign Office.

Line 3. For "Shawa's participating was [grp. undec.]" read "Shawa's visa was issued".

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

17th July, 1947



*PO attach pp. (v. 17)*

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1947

E

E 5885

PALESTINE

13 OCT

Registry Number E 9458/5885/A  
 FROM Mr Furlong  
 Imperial Defence College  
 No. 10 W. Burrows.  
 Dated 9 Oct.  
 Received in Registry 13 Oct.

London Representative of Palestine Arabs: Views on Palestine Situation.  
 Records conversation with IZZEDIN SHAWA, who hopes to be diplomatic representative of Palestinian Arabs in London. Did not think H.M.G. would withdraw from Palestine, that U.N.O. could produce acceptable solution, or that Arabs & Jews could agree to a solution.

Last Paper

6138

(Minutes.)

*Fable*  
 (F.E.C.A.B.H.R.)  
 14/10

References

Another line to the Mufti, if we want one!

D.S. Davis  
 Oct. 15

(Print)

See E5885

(How disposed of)

rept. Mr Furlong/  
 Imperial Defence College.  
 from W.B. Burrows.  
 ✓ Oct 21

R. G. Gann  
 15/10

Local copy

PAZIS

16-x

(Action completed)

J.E.M. 23/10

(Index)

*[Handwritten initials]*  
 14/10/47

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**FO**  
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Imperial Defence College,  
37, Belgrave Square, S.W.1.  
9th October, 1947.

F 11  
Lutter

E 3.50

Dear Burrows,

13 OCT

I received an unexpected invitation to lunch yesterday from Izzedin Shawa, a Palestinian Arab whom I had known slightly in Beirut. As I gathered the impression that the only contact he had had with the Foreign Office was a brief interview with Beeley just before the latter left for the U.S.A., the following account of our conversation may possibly be of interest.

He said that he had arrived in London about two months ago as the representative of the Higher Arab Committee, and hoped eventually to be recognised as the diplomatic representative in London of the Palestine Arabs and to deal officially with the Foreign Office on their behalf; he had no desire to deal with the Colonial Office. He had opened an office in his house at 74 Eaton Square (telephone GLOane 3562). He had no connection with the Arab Office, which was "merely" concerned with propaganda and represented all the Arab States (I have been told from a Lebanese source in London that the Mufti in fact sent him here because he was dissatisfied with the way in which the Arab Office was presenting the Arab case on Palestine). He also spoke slightly of Musa el Alami, saying that he was on the wrong lines and would not co-operate with the Mufti, whom the vast majority of Arabs considered as their leader, and was therefore virtually useless to the Arab cause.

On Palestine, he said that the Arabs found it hard to believe that the British really meant to abandon their substantial material and strategic interests in Palestine and to create a vacuum into which the Russians might go. He dismissed as unthinkable the possibilities (a) that UNO would produce a solution acceptable to Arabs and Jews and (b) that the Arabs and Jews could agree on a solution even if HMG announced the date of their withdrawal and UNO failed to find any authority to put in to succeed us. He thought it highly unlikely that UNO would in fact find any such authority, as in his opinion the USA would not accept any responsibility in Palestine. What, then, would HMG do? They could hardly dump the Palestine administration and money on the floor and walk out leaving the country to chaos. Might they not therefore be forced to stay?

I explained that I had had no connection with Palestine affairs since last December and could only give him my personal opinion. It seemed to me that all this was hypothesis. The responsibility for finding a solution lay with UNO, and it could not be assumed that they would fail. If they did, then it could likewise not be assumed that some responsible Arabs and Jews would not get together. I could not see how we could be expected at this stage to plan for a situation which might never arise, the more so since what happened would depend on UNO, the Arabs, and the Jews. But I thought he could dismiss from his mind any notion that HMG did not mean what they said; public opinion in this country appeared to me to be overwhelmingly /in

R.A.B. Burrows, Esq.,  
Foreign Office.

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in favour of getting out of Palestine as soon as possible, and I was sure that HMG intended to do so. (The High Commissioner's statement to this effect had not then been published). Shawa appeared to accept this and asked what date we were likely to fix for final withdrawal, on which I said I hadn't the faintest idea. He hoped it would be soon, as the Arabs were anxious that we should go as soon as possible and felt that any delay would be to the advantage of the Jews.

I then questioned him about the Arabs' intentions in case it came about that they were in fact left alone with the Jews, but got little of interest except that they were supremely confident that they could see the Jews off relatively easily with military aid from the other Arab States, and were making their plans accordingly. Shawa did, however, add that the Arabs of Palestine had been patient for a long time in the face of repeated Jewish aggressions and were wondering, if they now started to react against the Jews, whether the British would continue to "protect the Jews" as in the past, or whether they would remain neutral. I said I was quite sure that, so long as we remained in the country and responsible for law and order, we should repress Arab disorder as firmly as we did Jewish; and I read him a lecture on the folly of dissipating the good impression which the Arabs had created in British circles by their relatively good behaviour and moderation in the recent past. He hastily said that the Arabs realised this and would continue to behave.

We mentioned that Fawzi Kawukji, now in Syria, was in excellent fettle, contrary to reports that he had been paralysed in 1941 in Iraq. The rest of a long conversation was of little interest.

I might mention that on October 1st I saw Adil Osseiran, a Lebanese Shia who had arrived that day by air from Beirut on his way to form part of the Lebanese Delegation to UNO, and that he expressed to me identical bellicosity and doubts as to the sincerity of British intentions to withdraw from Palestine.

Shawa, like most Arabs, was very anti-British during the 1936-9 period, but I seem to remember hearing that our Supply people in Saudi Arabia found him co-operative when he was serving as Ibn Saud's Agricultural Advisor a year or two ago. On occasion I should think he might serve as a useful contact, as he is intelligent (I think he was at Oxford) and presumably has the ear of the Mufti.

Yours ever,

*G. W. Furlong*

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Registry  
No. E 9458/5885/31

B. A. B. B.

*G.W.*  
*Draft.*  
Mr. Furlonge,  
Imperial Defence  
College.

*Telegram*

(From Mr. Burrows)

21 October, 1947.

~~Despatch~~

XX

Dear Furlonge,

Many thanks for your letter of  
October 9th, about ~~Izzedin Shawa.~~

We have a note by Beeley in our files  
about his meeting with <sup>the person you mention</sup> Shawa in

August. We can of course give him

~~Shawa~~ no official recognition and  
he ought properly to deal with the  
Colonial Office, but we will bear in  
mind the possibility of making use of  
him as a channel if circumstances  
should make this desirable.

I was glad to hear from you again  
and hope we may meet before long.  
If you are ever in or near the Foreign  
Office, do come and see me.

*Yours ever*

*Burrows*  
(Sgd.) Bernard Burrows.  
16.X

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Up  
End

(E 9458/5885/31)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

21st October, 1947.

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Dear Furlonge,

Many thanks for your letter of 9th October. We have a note by Beeley in our files about his meeting with the person you mention in August. We can of course give him no official recognition and he ought properly to deal with the Colonial Office, but we will bear in mind the possibility of making use of him as a channel if circumstances should make this desirable.

I was glad to hear from you again and hope we may meet before long. If you are ever in or near the Foreign Office, do come and see me.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) Bernard Burrows.

(B.A.B. Burrows)

G.W. Furlonge, Esq., O.B.E.  
Imperial Defence College,  
37, Belgrave Square,  
S.W.1.

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